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Only in the last chapters, and with commendable moderation, does the author indulge in a little prospect painting in which his rainbow colors grow ethereal.

To the scientific critic the book is open to criticism in many respects, and even the cursory reader will feel the inadequacy of the reply to the fundamental objections usually urged against socialism. But we may fairly admit the socialists' demurrer to these and all other criticisms, that he is dealing with an immense problem and great difficulties for which, as yet, even his critics have scarcely discovered a satisfactory solution.

*University of Wisconsin.*

H. H. P.

*Political Economy for American Youth. Written from an American Standpoint.* By JACOB HARRIS PATTON, Ph. D. Pp. 297. New York: Lovell & Co. 1892.

This is a compact little book designed for beginners. Whatever value it has lies not in the explanation, but in the description of industrial phenomena. The pages abound in copious concrete illustrations drawn from contemporary industry. The author, though he makes little attempt to reach principles or laws, and hence imparts to his book no scientific value, spares us the usual series of dissertations on Robinson Crusoe.

The evidences of the author's bias are very interesting. There is a page on "The Advantages of Railways," not without a motive. A page is devoted to "Duties Enjoined upon Workmen," but no duties are enjoined upon employers. The "Golden Rule" requires that workmen should submit to reduction of wages when trade is dull, but Dr. Patton's Golden Rule is discreetly silent as to what the employer should do when trade improves. Trades union restrictions are very wicked, but nothing is said as to the black-list. For the sake of the innocent public, workingmen should be careful in striking not to cause any interruption of business on the railroads. We are told that labor leaders "compelled" their men to quit work. A section is given to "Wages Raised by Wrong Measures." The similar lowering of wages gets no such consideration. Capitalists are "enterprising gentlemen;" laboring men are "work people." The latter "have not the mental wear and tear of the owners (of capital), who must undergo a large amount of anxiety which is unknown to the former." Indirect taxation is commended, because "voluntary on the part of the payer." The tariff is a wise form of taxation, because it taxes "foreign property imported for sale," which otherwise would not pay one cent. Free traders "attach a sacredness to imported foreign

property" which they deny to American property. One more quotation. Our few surviving communistic societies "have in them the seeds of disintegration and death, since they appeal to the selfishness of human nature rather than to its generous impulses."

The source and aim of the book is too evident to need pointing out.

Cornell University.

E. A. R.

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*Digest of Political Economy, and Some of its Applications to Social Philosophy.* By G. VERSIAN PICK. Pp. xii., 156. London: Swan, Sonnenschein & Co. 1892.

The alternate title of Mr. Pick's book alone indicates that it is an epitome of J. S. Mill's *Principles of Political Economy*. What at first appears strange editorial remissness, becomes later intelligible through the apparent identity in the writer's mind of Mill's *Principles* and the science of political economy. This is clearly shown in the introductory sentences of the Preface.

The primary purpose of the book, it is stated, is to serve as a popular summary of economic truths. In this direction such a work is naturally of little value. Even the most readable digest of Mr. Mill's treatise, repeating in unmodified faith his theory of value and capital, would be clearly unsuited for establishing "the plain truths of the science." When propaganda takes the form of almost epigrammatic condensation, the doctrine, however sound, will certainly not "find favor with the masses."

The natural design of the book,—use by students in conjunction with Mill's treatise,—is later suggested, in the hope that it will enable them "to produce the main principles of the science and deduce therefrom without hesitation." A satisfactory epitome of the *Principles of Political Economy* would be at least acceptable, and it is to be regretted that Mr. Pick has not aimed at making academic use the primary and entire one, instead of the secondary and partial purpose of his book. As it is, the general scope of the work renders it unserviceable for precise use, and its inherent character unfit for popular use. The classical arrangement of the five books of the *Principles* into chapters and sections is displaced by a purely arbitrary division into numbered paragraphs. The Table of Contents is unpagged, and an index is lacking altogether. Condensation is disproportionate to student-needs. Book III., on Exchange, is expanded with some justification from the one-fourth which it constitutes of the *Principles* to one-third of the *Digest*; but Chapter XV., on "A Measure of Value," is dismissed with a suggestive paragraph (p. 87): "On this subject we refer the reader to the chapter devoted to it in Mill's '*Political*